

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JOHNNIE HODGES, SR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II Navy Veteran, and a friend of Buffalo, the late Johnnie Hodges, Sr. Hodges who served as a light of inspiration to his local community, and I am proud to bring recognition to his life and legacy today.

Mr. Hodges was a trailblazer. He began his service with the United States Navy on January 8, 1944 and following training in Bainbridge, Maryland, was stationed aboard the USS *General Harry Taylor*. Hodges served as a Stewards Mate Third Class on the troop transport ship during World War II, taking part in missions across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans until his honorable discharge on June 17, 1946. His participation, along with many other African Americans in the Armed Forces, led to the desegregation of the military and planted the seeds for Civil Rights Movement in the United States. He was also the first ever African American Foreman at Bethlehem Steel, a mill which was once the second largest producer of iron in the United States. In addition to his work at Bethlel Steel for 35 years, his wife, Flora, and he were entrepreneurs, owning a successful delicatessen.

Johnnie was known for his kindness which never went unrecognized by those around him. When he came back from serving our great country during World War II, he raised 6 children with his wife Flora. Johnnie was known to always be helping others, from teaching teenagers how to fix their cars, to helping a young neighbor with his newspaper route. Johnnie also served his local community by working as a bus driver for Buffalo for 25 years. When he had fallen behind in mortgage payments as he was caring for his sick wife and was eventually evicted from his home, the local community rallied in support of Johnnie, and raised over 100,000 dollars in less than 24 hours to send Johnnie back to his home. This generosity by family, friends, and strangers, is a true testament to the kind of man Johnnie was, and his lifetime of kindness was quickly repaid when he was in a time of need. These actions also demonstrated why Buffalo is known as the "City of Good Neighbors."

Madam Speaker, please join me to bring recognition to such a significant member of the Buffalo community. It is an honor to be able to recognize Johnnie Hodges, Sr. today. He helped to make our world a better place with his participation in World War II which strengthened our democracy and freedom, and our community a better place by being a true pillar of service and sacrifice. All those who were lucky enough to have known him will greatly miss his generous spirit and forever remember his lasting legacy of kindness.

IN HONOR OF KEN NORTON FOR HIS 19 YEARS OF SERVICE AT THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS NEW HAMPSHIRE IN CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere best wishes to Ken Norton as he steps down as Executive Director at the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) New Hampshire after many years of dedicated service in the field of mental health.

During Ken's long and successful career in community mental health advocacy, he will be remembered as a leading and influential voice for mental health awareness and access in New Hampshire. Ken has brought science-based grassroots mental health services to every community in our Granite State. We are grateful for Ken's leadership as he grew the NAMI New Hampshire organization, while strengthening partnerships, building the organization's capacity for support, education, and advocacy services. Our families, neighbors, and communities are better because of the work of Ken Norton.

On behalf of New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Ken Norton for his exemplary service. I wish him the best of luck in the years ahead.

HONORING RICHARD "RICH" FREEDMAN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard "Rich" Freedman in celebration of his longstanding career in journalism.

Upon graduating from Ygnacio Valley High School in Concord, California, and later from San Jose State University with a bachelor's in journalism, Mr. Freedman began a 27-year long career with the Vallejo Times-Herald. Largely inspired by his late professor, Roger Budrow, and his late father, Bernie, Mr. Freedman had an immense passion for every meaningful story.

While he ended his long and illustrious career with the Times-Herald as the Community Editor, he spent time covering the arts, sports, features, and wrote his own column. As the entertainment writer, he interviewed astronauts, authors, a CIA operative, singers, motivational speakers, and so many more.

In addition to Mr. Freedman's career with the Times-Herald, he spent much of his time serving his community. As a member of Reach Out Benicia, Contra Costa County

Child Abuse Prevention Council, and the Benicia/Vallejo Humane Society, Mr. Freedman received an Honorable Mention from the Contra Costa Press Club and Humanitarian of the Year Award from the Vallejo Boys and Girls Club. He was also recognized by the California Army National Guard and received a California Commendation Medal.

Mr. Freedman and his wife, Megan, have three children, Toby, Charlotte, and Beau, and one son, Cameron, who passed away in 2020. Mr. Freedman, throughout his career, has been known for his sense of humor, his passion, and willingness to serve his community.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Mr. Freedman has dedicated his life and career to the betterment of Vallejo, Benicia, and journalism. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING JOHN P. ANDERSON, DMD OF RAINSVILLE, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Dr. John P. Anderson of Rainsville, Alabama on his service to Northeast Alabama after 48 years of practice. Dr. Anderson's decades of service to his community and the State of Alabama exemplify the hard-working spirit of the people we have in Alabama's Fourth District.

Dr. Anderson graduated from Auburn University in 1969 where he was a member of the Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Epsilon Delta, and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies. He continued his education at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry where he graduated in 1973 with his DMD degree. While at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry he was a member of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honorary Dental Society and the American College of Dentists. He received the Dean's Award, the highest award bestowed on a graduating senior, the Walter Pelton Community Dentistry Award, and the Academy of General Dentistry Award.

After receiving his DMD in 1973, Dr. Anderson practiced in Rainsville, Alabama. Deepening his dedication to his field, he served as a Delegate to the American Dental Association for 12 years, where he served as both Vice President and President. He also served as the President of the Dentistry Alumni Association for the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He has been honored with many outstanding awards over the course of his career including the Pierre Fauchard Academy Fellowship Award in 1988, the Academy of Dentistry International Fellowship Award in 1990, the Alabama Dental Association Dentist Citizen of the Year in 1991, the International College of Dentists Fellowship Award in 1992, the American College of Dentists Fellowship Award in 1993, and the Alabama Dental Association Most Excellent Fellow in 1995.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

As an active member of his community, Dr. Anderson's service extends far beyond the scope of his practice. He has served two terms as the President of the Rainsville Chamber of Commerce and served on a committee that raised \$350,000 of local money to secure matching grants for a new public library in Rainsville. His service to Dekalb County includes serving 12 years on the Board of Directors for the United Givers Fund and chairing the Dekalb County Commission to Improve Education. Additionally, he is currently in his 28th year on the Economic Development Committee of Dekalb County where he has served as Chairman since 2000.

Dr. Anderson has served so many over the past 48 years, not only in Alabama, but in 1988 he even traveled to Bolivia where he provided dental care to the natives of the Andes Mountains.

Dr. Anderson has been married to his wife Frances Randolph Maclin Anderson since 1969. They have one daughter, Mary Stuart Anderson Gallian who followed in her father's footsteps and practices dentistry in Fairfax, Virginia. Please join his family and me in congratulating Dr. John P. Anderson of Rainsville, Alabama on an exceptional career and great service to his community and the great State of Alabama.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MEL REEVES

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a long-time civil rights activist, journalist, and my friend, Mel Reeves who passed away at the age of 64 from COVID-19 complications.

Born in Miami, Florida, he was the youngest of 13 children and was adopted at the age of one. Bullied at a young age, Reeves grew up standing up for others and being an outspoken advocate for marginalized communities. Later in life he attended Northwestern College in Iowa, then moved to Minneapolis where he devoted his life to advocating for social justice.

Mel Reeves was a journalist for the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorded newspaper and never shied away from elevating the truth. He was a devoted and passionate man with a fighting spirit, always ready to support his community advocating for justice and accountability. Reeves did not just write about the many injustices happening around him, such as the horrific murders of George Floyd and Daunte Wright, he used his voice and platform to encourage the community to never stop fighting for justice.

As a community leader, he advocated for racial justice, education reform, the working class and more recently the need to protect oneself from the pandemic by wearing a mask and getting vaccinated.

Reeves is survived by his son Kellen Reeves and five grandchildren.

Rest in peace, friend. I thank him for inspiring many to speak up for justice.

HONORING DR. MAREK PIENKOWSKI'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. TIM BURCHETT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, today I recognize Dr. Marek Pienkowski, an accomplished medical researcher and a cultural ambassador for Poland. This year he is celebrating his 50th anniversary of living in the United States.

Dr. Pienkowski earned his M.D. and Ph.D. at the Medical University of Warsaw. In 1972 he migrated to the United States to work with Hilary Koprowski, the inventor of the world's first live Polio vaccine, to research cancer-causing viruses. He later became a post-doctoral fellow in clinical immunology at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and in 1984 he established a clinical practice to treat patients with allergies, asthma, and immunological disorders.

Today, medical research and findings from throughout Dr. Pienkowski's career are widely distributed. He published more than fifty scientific papers and two books, including the Handbook for Human Embryology used by medical students in Poland.

Dr. Pienkowski was key to expanding cultural, artistic, scientific, and business dialogue between the United States and Poland. He established the Marek Maria Pienkowski Foundation to facilitate cooperation and exchanges between the University of Tennessee's School of Art and fine arts schools in Poland. He also founded PolandNow in Knoxville, a civic organization to promote and strengthen Polish-American relationships.

During this time, former United States Ambassador to Poland Victor Ashe worked with Dr. Pienkowski to establish Knoxville's Sister City relationship with Chelm, Poland. For his efforts to strengthen U.S.-Poland relations, Dr. Pienkowski earned an Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland designation from the U.S. Department of State.

When Dr. Pienkowski left Poland to make the United States his home, he brought with him his passions for helping people and building international relationships. Congratulations to Dr. Pienkowski for an impressive career, and I thank him for his contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING ANNA MAE JONES, A DEDICATED PATRIOT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the remarkable life of Anna Mae Jones, a military veteran, teacher, dedicated community leader, and devoted wife and mother. Anna Mae led a long, exemplary life committed to service for her community and country. Her sacrifice and

dedication to our American values made Anna Mae the truest embodiment of a patriot. Anna Mae was born in Saratoga Springs, New York on September 6, 1916. Raised in Tonawanda, she attended D'Youville College, earning her teaching degree in 1938.

When the United States entered World War II, Anna Mae put her teaching career aside to enlist in the war. She strongly believed it was her civic duty, and a true honor, to be able to serve her country. Anna Mae joined the Women's Army Auxiliary and served in New Guinea from 1943 to 1945. Specializing as the chief clerk to the Provost Marshal, Anna Mae was able to utilize her organizational skills as a teacher to help the war effort. Her commendable service record is evident through the numerous awards, medals, and honors Anna Mae was given. As a Second Lieutenant, Anna Mae was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, Women's Army Corps Service Medal, and two Overseas Service Bars.

It was during her time serving that Anna Mae met the love of her life, Lieutenant John Joseph Jones II. The two were wed in 1946 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Tonawanda. Anna Mae and John began their wonderful life together in dutiful service to our nation, assigned to bases in the United States and Europe. Together, they raised three beautiful children.

Anna Mae and her family returned to settle in Tonawanda in 1955. Anna Mae began her work as a special-education teacher at Central School in Tonawanda. Anna Mae dedicated her career to enhancing the learning experience for her students, ensuring they got the upmost out of their education. She frequently took her students on camping trips to teach them about nature and even started a summer school program for students in the special education department. Anna Mae was a true pioneer in the special education field, and the students of Tonawanda are forever grateful for her and her work.

After her retirement in 1981, Anna Mae's devotion to service remained steadfast, further immersing herself into the community and civic organizations around her. She sought to make a lasting, meaningful impact in the community she cared so deeply for, and so she did. Anna Mae was a member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, the Ladies of Charity, the Women's Army Corps, and the Tonawanda Women's Democratic Club. Additionally, she served as Chaplain of the American Legion Post No. 264 in Tonawanda for 27 years, earning the Legion of Honor Award. Furthermore, Anna Mae was an active member in the Legislative Branch of the AARP, served as a board member of the Waterfront Revitalization Committee, and was an active member of the Historical Society of the Tonawandas for 50 years. Three years prior to her passing at the age of 103, Anna Mae was honored at the Buffalo Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Anna Mae and her exemplary work in serving our country. We cannot afford to forget the powerful example citizens like Ms. Jones set for us. Let the memory of her lifelong service to something larger than herself summon our better angels to do our part as well.

HONORING RAYMOND L.
CRAWFORD, JR.

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a great man, Mr. Raymond L. Crawford, Jr. of Denton, Texas who passed away on January 17, 2022. He lived a full life and was a respected business leader, philanthropist and beloved husband and father.

Mr. Crawford was born and raised in Lewisville, Texas where he was baptized at the First Presbyterian Church. He attended Lewisville High School and was a four-sport letterman. As President of the Senior Class of 1958, he led a class trip to Washington, D.C., where the group met with their Congressman, Frank Ikard. He furthered his education at North Texas College in Denton. As a student, he was a football player and a member and President of the Geezles fraternity, graduating in 1963 with a BA in Mathematics.

He was a life-long financial and insurance services professional, beginning his successful five-decade career with Northwestern Mutual with an on-campus interview at his alma mater. The trade association, Million Dollar Roundtable, recognized him in 2018 with a lifetime membership for having 50 consecutive years meeting the organization's ethical standards and sales requirements. In addition, he was recognized by Northwestern Mutual in 1983 as one of its top 20 salesmen in the nation. He prided himself on doing his best to build client relationships based upon trust and integrity, and advising them with the best investment products to protect and provide for those most important in their lives.

R.L.'s love for the University of North Texas manifested in his financial support and volunteer service on many UNT boards, including the UNT Board of Regents from 1989 to 1995 and as chairman and emeritus director of the UNT Foundation Board. He was also a proud member of the Mean Green Club and the UNT Alumni Association. He also actively engaged in his community, serving in leadership roles as the President of the Greater Lewisville Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of Medical City Lewisville, and President of the Lewisville Rotary Club as well as multiple non-profits. He was named Lewisville's 1983 "Citizen of the Year", an honorary lifetime board member of the Dallas United Way and a Paul Harris Fellow Rotarian.

He was devoted to Brenda, his college sweetheart, and wife of 57 years. Their marriage was blessed with two sons, R.L. "Trey" Crawford III, and F. Guy Crawford. Following in the steps of their parents, both men also graduated from the University of North Texas. R.L. Crawford, Jr. was a great personal friend and advisor to me and my wife. We extend heartfelt condolences to R.L.'s family; he will be deeply missed by his friends and family and the North Texas community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN
"JACK" CASEY, JR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a man who lived selflessly and embodied the true definition of a patriot. John "Jack" Casey, of Groton, Connecticut, who passed January 4th after a lifetime of service to his community, his state, and his nation.

Jack Casey was born on September 30, 1946, to Catherine Agnes Keane McDonald and John George Casey, Jr. in Allston, Massachusetts. He attended high school in Brighton, Massachusetts, and graduated in 1964. Immediately following his graduation, Jack heeded the call to serve his country and enlisted in the United States Navy. During his time in the Navy, he completed Disbursing Clerk Class A School in Newport, Rhode Island; and soon advanced to the rank Disbursing Clerk Third Class while stationed in New London, Connecticut.

Jack chose to extend his enlistment by thirteen months, volunteering to serve his nation in Vietnam. He attended Counter Insurgency Training in Little Creek, Virginia; and served at National Security Activity in Da Nang, Vietnam RVN from July 1967 to July 1968. His time in the Navy earned him the Navy Unit Commendation, Navy Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze stars, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation, Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Unit Citation, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Following his discharge from the Navy, Jack returned to Groton and found employment at the Navy Exchange. In November 1968, Jack began his 33-year career at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, working as a chemical operator. Jack worked for Pfizer until his retirement in November 2001.

Soon after his retirement, he started volunteering for numerous groups. Jack epitomized the spirit of volunteerism; his tireless dedication to fellow veterans and to his community would define his life. While Jack volunteered for Meals on Wheels, he would frequently go above and beyond for the seniors on his route—buying them items from the store without accepting reimbursement. In 2001, Jack began volunteering as a Registrar for the World War II memorial, inducting more than 100,000 people into the World War II Registry. He also volunteered as a Registrar for the U.S. Navy Memorial and U.S. Army Memorial, registering over 75,000 heroes as Sea Service Personnel and over 75,000 heroes for the U.S. Army Memorial.

I had the honor to witness first-hand Jack's deep compassion for his country and fellow veterans when he joined my Veterans Advisory Board in 2007. His participation and input as a member of the Board was invaluable as he identified real life problems within the Veterans Administration that impacted our veterans. However, the most remarkable quality about Jack was that for each issue he raised, he also brought forth constructive ideas to address the problem. Veterans in eastern Connecticut and all across the country benefited from his passionate well-informed advocacy.

Jack continued to be a champion of veterans, becoming a member of the Patriot Guard Riders in 2008. During his time as a member of the Patriot Guard, his role would encompass that of a general member, a Ride Captain, and Assistant State Captain. He completed 5,000 missions from Vermont to New York. Jack also went on to serve as a board member for the Connecticut Patriot Guard from April 2008 to June 2019.

In the midst of his work with the Patriot Guard, from 2009 to 2015, Jack volunteered as Logistic Support Manager and Guardian for American Warrior. He escorted World War II veterans to the World War II Memorial, something that he found deeply gratifying.

Jack's selflessness did not go unrecognized. In 2011, he was awarded the Outstanding Citizenship Award by the National Society of the Son of the American Revolution. A year later, he was awarded the Norwich Area Council Veteran of the Year Award for his support and dedication to Norwich area Veterans organizations. And, on November 1, 2013, Jack was inducted into the 9th class of the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame—a well-deserved nomination that I enthusiastically supported.

Not one to rest, in 2015, Jack helped establish a series of veteran coffeehouses across Southeastern Connecticut. These coffeehouses offered and continue to offer veterans a network of support, resources and comradery.

Jack stayed active in the veteran community until the end, participating in the Vietnam Veterans of American, Chapter 20, and Easter Seals veterans Rally Point. Jack was a lifetime member of the VVA, VFW, DAV, and Submarine Veterans Association.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege and an honor to represent constituents as selfless and humble as John "Jack" Casey, Jr. Though the gap he leaves in the fabric of Eastern Connecticut's veterans' community is one that won't be soon filled, we can find solace in the reality that Jack's hard work has touched thousands. Jack undoubtedly left those he interacted with better and achieved his goal of leaving things better for those who come after him. I ask that my colleagues please join me in honoring Jack Casey, a man to whom we can all look as a model of leadership and service.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE, SPIRIT,
AND LEADERSHIP OF REVEREND
PETER C. WEISS

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember the life, spirit, and leadership of The Very Reverend Peter C. Weiss, S.S.J.

I knew Father Weiss during his service as a Pastor to All Saints Catholic Church in my home community of Algiers and his time as Chaplain at the New Orleans Fire Department.

He was an inspiring orator and a kind soul that steered the church through difficult times.

Peter C. Weiss was born in Brooklyn on June 26, 1951 to Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Weiss.

He was a member of the Society of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart for 43 years until he passed away last week at the age of 70.

Ordained in 1979, Father Weiss ministered primarily to African American communities across the country, including in Baltimore, Houston, Birmingham, and Washington, D.C.

However, his longest ministerial service was in New Orleans, where he made a lasting mark on the community.

Along with ministering to elderly, sick and homebound parishioners, Rev. Peter Weiss was a reserve fireman, a Chaplain to the local branch of the FBI, and taught at St. Augustine High School for 30 years.

At the school he played indispensable roles as a Theology Teacher, Director of Color Guard, and Chief Religious Officer.

In everything he did for St. Augustine, All Saints Catholic Church and the community, he kept Christ at the forefront.

I'm sending prayers to Father Weiss' family, friends, students, colleagues, and church community.

He will be so missed.

I take comfort that now, he is at peace with his Savior in heaven.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MIKE JILOTY

HON. MICHAEL WALTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, on December 25th Volusia County lost a great businessman and valued community leader, Mike Jiloty. Through Mike's hard work and personal approach to business, he received hundreds of industry awards. Serving as the President of United Way of Volusia and Flagler, Mike fought for the health, education, and stability of every person in his community. He dedicated his time to the FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools to better prepare students for their careers.

As a graduate of the Leadership Florida Class XIV, Mike used his skills as a leader to serve his community and was honored by several organizations, including the Volusia Association of School Administrators, the Daytona Beach Community College Foundation, and the Conklin Center for the Blind Lodging.

Madam Speaker, Mike Jiloty was a true example of a servant leader. He sought to inspire others, to make his community a better place, and he is missed dearly. It is my honor to recognize him today.

NANSEN SKI CLUB

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the first competitive ski jumping event at the Nansen Jump Park in nearly 40 years that will take place January 23, 2022.

The Nansen Ski Jump was constructed in 1936-38 by the city of Berlin and the National

Youth Administration with help from with the Nansen Ski Club.

For almost fifty years the Nansen Ski Jump was the premier ski jump in the country, hosting Olympic trials and National Championships. In 1988, the jump was closed and the site of the jump was overgrown and rundown.

Winter sports are more than just a hobby in New Hampshire and throughout the United States; they are a way of life. I was proud to support Nansen Ski club's efforts to restore and renovate the Nansen Ski Jump. The restoration of the Nansen Ski Jump site, and the return of ski jumping to New Hampshire's North Country, will create an economic and communal boost to the region.

On August 27, 2021 I was excited to visit the Nansen Ski Jump in Milan to see the progress on renovations. I am proud of the North Country community for coming together to make the project a reality.

On behalf of my constituents across New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank them for all they do to ensure New Hampshire remains such a wonderful place to live, play, and raise a family.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JOHN "JACK" A. WALTER, A VIETNAM WAR HERO, ACTIVE VOLUNTEER, AND FAMILY MAN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Vietnam Veteran Captain Jack Walter. Jack was born and raised to serve his country, community, and family. He grew up on the East Side of Buffalo and was the 8th of the 9 children of Joseph and Frances Walter. His father was a bricklayer, so he always knew what it meant to work hard in life and never give up. He graduated from St. Matthew's Grammar School in 1960, Canisius High School in 1964, and Gannon University in 1969. While in college he was a member of the Army ROTC Advanced Corps. With this solid foundation, Jack was ready to put his leadership skills to the test. He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, Field Artillery. He went to Vietnam and served with the 1st Cavalry Division, 1st/21st Artillery. He was an Artillery Forward Observer with an Infantry Company, an Artillery Liaison Officer for an Infantry Battalion, and an Assistant Executive Officer for his Firing Battery. While in Vietnam he served in part of the incursion into Cambodia in May and June of 1970 and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in Cambodia.

Jack used his skills to save the lives of others on the battlefield. He was awarded a Silver Star, the third-highest military decoration for valor in combat. He received the Silver Star for "Gallantry in Action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile enemy force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Walter distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on June 22, 1970 in the Kingdom of Cambodia. During an intense ground battle involving a

well-entrenched enemy force, First Lieutenant Walter, serving as Artillery Liaison, repeatedly came upon heavy enemy fire as he diverted devastating aerial and field artillery on enemy positions. With complete disregard for his own safety, First Lieutenant Walter performed in a courageous and professional manner as he effectively directed artillery while braving the intense hostile fire."

Jack was also awarded a Bronze Star with an oak leaf cluster representing two Bronze Star Awards. He received a Bronze Star Award with Valor, the fourth highest award for military combat bravery during combat actions against an enemy force. The Bronze Star Award with Valor was "for heroism in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Walter also distinguished himself by valorous actions on February 27, 1970 in Binh Long Province, part of the Republic of Vietnam. When his Platoon encountered small arms and automatic weapons fire from an enemy bunker complex, he immediately called in artillery and air strikes. His pinpoint accuracy forced the aggressors to flee their fortified positions." He was awarded a second Bronze Star award for Meritorious Achievement in ground operations against hostile forces during the period from October 1969 to October 1970 in the Republic of Vietnam. In addition, Jack received an Air Medal with 4 oak leaf clusters representing 5 Air Medals in total, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device, and several other awards for his service in Vietnam. When he returned home from the warzone, he continued his military service by joining the U.S. Army Reserve. He was promoted to Captain in 1973. In 1974, when his military career ended, he spent the next 36 years in the aerospace and defense industry.

When Jack came back from Vietnam, he did whatever he could to use his leadership skills to help his family and his community. He was active in the Amherst Girls Softball League where he spent 11 years as a coach, Vice-President, Treasurer and Registrar and where he received the Amherst Girls Softball League Hall of Fame Award in 1991. He was the coach for Christ the King girls' basketball team for 8 years and then went on to be the assistant head coach for the Nardin Academy Varsity Basketball team for 5 years. He is active in Christ the King Church, having served as a member of the Parish Council for 12 years and president of the Parish Council for 2 years. He was also Chairman of the Finance Committee at Christ the King Church for 5 years.

Jack couldn't have been so successful in his life without the support of his family which includes his wife Janice, his three daughters which include Dr. Jacquelyn Dougherty who is an optometrist at the VA Western New York Healthcare System, Judith Dehn who is an athletic trainer at Excelsior Orthopaedics, Mary Colpoys who is a science teacher at Grand Island High School, and his 10 grandchildren. Jack's friend and fellow Vietnam Veteran Tom Bubar was instrumental in securing this special recognition for Jack. Jack's dedication to his troops in Vietnam, his family, and his community is an example of the selfless sacrifices that we should all make to ensure that our world and community is a better place to live.

RECOGNITION OF THE NORTH
SHORE SENIOR HIGH MUSTANGS

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the North Shore Senior High Mustangs for their victory at the Texas 6A Football State Championship.

This victory reflects the incredible passion and dedication of the students, parents, and staff at North Shore both on and off the field.

I know I can speak for the North Channel community and East Harris County when I say that we are proud of our student athletes.

The Mustangs have now won 3 state championships in the past 4 years, and I know they have a bright future ahead of them.

To each and every member of the North Shore football team, to Coach Jon Kay, and to all of the parents and teachers who have supported this team, I wish them continued success.

Their futures are bright, and I can't wait to see them shine even more.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HEMP-
STEAD COUNTY DETENTION
LIEUTENANT JERRY S. BUSH

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of retired Lieutenant Jerry S. Bush, a committed servant of the Hempstead County Sheriff's Department. Lieutenant Bush passed away on Wednesday, January 5, leaving behind a legacy of joyful service to his beloved Hope, Arkansas home.

Having started his career as a Reserve Deputy, Lieutenant Bush worked his way up to Deputy and was later promoted to Lieutenant in the county's detention center. Lieutenant Bush also served many years as a Bailiff to the Arkansas Circuit Court. Remembered most for his service to the citizens of Hempstead County, Lieutenant Bush will always be remembered as a friend and servant to his community.

I take this time today to honor the life of service exemplified by Lieutenant Jerry S. Bush. I thank him and his family for their dedication to our fellow citizens and our beloved Fourth District of Arkansas.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HON. E.
G. "BUD" SHUSTER

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Congressman Bud Shuster, who represented the people of central Pennsylvania for over 30 years and wish him a happy 90th birthday.

Throughout his career, Bud Shuster worked tirelessly to serve his constituents. As Chair-

man of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, he built broad coalitions of support that tackled some of our nation's greatest challenges and worked to improve virtually every aspect of the nation's infrastructure including our roads, bridges, airports, ports, and waterways. Congressman Shuster was also a driving force in the construction of Interstate 99, a vital route that connected Altoona, Bedford, and State College to the rest of our Commonwealth and beyond.

His work in Congress as the top Republican on the House Select Intelligence Committee was key in the creation of the CIA's Counternarcotics Center and in passing legislation that specially equipped intelligence planes to locate Central American drug cartels, which attempted to bring deadly drugs into our communities.

His work in the halls of Congress undoubtedly made our nation stronger, safer, and more prosperous.

As his 90th birthday approaches, Bud Shuster's example should continue to inspire every member in this body to work to serve their constituents. On behalf of the people of the 13th Congressional District, I wish Congressman Bud Shuster a happy birthday and many more happy and healthy years to come.

IN MEMORY OF MARILYN
BERGMAN

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and to honor the life and legacy of Marilyn Bergman, who passed away on January 8, 2022. Marilyn was an accomplished songwriter and a longtime President of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP). I offer my most sincere condolences to her family and friends on her loss.

A native New Yorker, Marilyn broke barriers as one of a relatively few women in the then-male-dominated songwriting business in her early career and as the first woman to serve as President of ASCAP, a position she held for a decade and a half.

Over the course of her long and impressive career, Marilyn wrote the lyrics for many iconic songs as part of a songwriting duo with her husband Alan, including the Academy-Award winning "The Way We Were" and "The Windmills of Your Mind," as well as songs for the film Yentl and the theme songs to a number of popular television shows. During the course of her illustrious career, she was nominated for sixteen Academy Awards, winning three times, as well as earning four Emmy Awards and two Grammy Awards. Among her many accolades, in 1980 she was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

In addition to her work as a lyricist, Marilyn was a tireless advocate to protect the rights of songwriters. In 1985, she became the first woman elected to the Board of Directors of ASCAP. She later served as President and Chairman of the Board and presided over unprecedented growth in the organization. Through her leadership of ASCAP, she was a strong partner to Congress, and particularly to

the Judiciary Committee, in its work to support the music industry and to protect the rights of creators. Among her accomplishments, she worked to help pass the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, a landmark piece of legislation governing copyright and the internet. This is but one example of her diligent efforts to ensure that songwriters and music creators can sustain a living through their creativity notwithstanding the dramatic changes in technology that occurred during her leadership in the industry.

Marilyn is survived by her husband, Alan, her daughter, Julie, and her granddaughter, Emily.

Marilyn will be remembered by many Americans for her artistic talents, as her lyrics graced our lives in so many ways. She will also be remembered by many songwriters for her strong advocacy on their behalf. May her memory be a blessing.

HAPPY 107TH BIRTHDAY TO
CAPTAIN SYDNEY COLE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Sydney Cole as he celebrates his 107th birthday. A decorated World War II veteran and lifelong resident of Buffalo, Mr. Cole is a beloved fixture of his community. Mr. Cole is a true inspiration to all those around him.

Mr. Cole grew up in Buffalo, New York, and attended City Honors High School, where he was later inducted into the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame. Before the United States entered World War II, Mr. Cole enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force. In 1943, Mr. Cole joined the United States Army to continue to support the Allies. Then, First Lieutenant Cole recalls flying the artillery observation plane for the 776th Field Artillery Battalion and being involved in the Battle of Rhineland and the Battle of Bulge. Mr. Cole will never forget what happened in the early morning hours of January 2, 1945, when his plane was shot down. Mr. Cole heroically saved his copilot, risking his life and becoming a prisoner of war. Captain Cole then went on to serve at a POW camp before discharging from the Army on December 27, 1945.

The immense bravery, patriotism, and sacrifice of Mr. Cole does not go unrecognized. Mr. Cole's exemplary service to our country is honored through his numerous medals and awards, including the Purple Heart Medal, Bronze Star Medal, and POW Medal.

Mr. Cole returned to Buffalo to marry the love of his life, Sybil, and raise their son Richard together. From 1978 to retirement, he was the owner of Cole Motors and worked as the manager of the Buffalo Athletic Club. Mr. Cole is highly cherished and admired in the community for his extraordinary lifetime of accomplishments.

I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Captain Cole a very happy 107th birthday. I look forward to celebrating many more milestones in the coming years and wish to extend my greatest gratitude to Captain Cole for his service and dedication to our country.

FIGHTING FOR PRO-LIFE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, last week in my district, under the leadership of Lisa Van Riper, Holly Gatling, and Sally Zaleski with South Carolina Citizens for Life, along with Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette and Attorney General Alan Wilson, I was grateful to participate in the largest ever-attended pro-life events in the state.

Tomorrow in Washington, the annual Pro-Life March will take place where thousands come together to embrace the birth of babies on the anniversary of the 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision.

This increasing level of support is better understood than ever before.

I am grateful to fight for pro-life values and am committed to advocating for the lives of the unborn, while also protecting the rights of health care providers who refuse to engage in abortions.

The Democrat elite think they are smarter than everyone and think Democrat voters and Democrat media are ignorant to believe that trillion-dollar spending “costs zero dollars.”

In conclusion, God Bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the Global War on Terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DOUG HEAD

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Doug Head was born in Midland, Michigan. He earned a degree in economics at Lawrence University in Wisconsin but spent over a year studying at the University of Singapore. He served in the Peace Corps in Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay before becoming a Central Florida resident in the early 1980s. Doug became the Executive Director of an organization that lobbied on behalf of AIDS patients, which he received recognition for in *Forbes* magazine calling him one of the ten most powerful voices in the insurance industry.

In the late 1980s, Doug became interested in politics and ran his first campaign in 1986. He also volunteered for the local Democratic party and worked to modernize their computer database. Soon after, Orange County's party registration flipped from a majority of Republican voters to a majority of Democratic voters. Doug served as Orange County Democratic Executive Committee (DEC) Chair from 1992 to 2004 and as the Orange County DEC's State Committeeman from 2016 to 2020.

As Chair, Doug encouraged interest groups to form clubs within the party. The first of which was the Orange County Rainbow Democratic Club, which was created in 1993 to promote the rights of members of the LGBTQ+ community. He also hosted a monthly social event, called “First Friday,” which became a gathering place for likeminded Demo-

crats in Central Florida who attended the event to network and strategize about campaigns and registering Democrats.

Doug later became the chair of County Watch, a local watchdog group, that pushed for transparency and accountability in county government and agencies. He also worked with local non-profit organizations to empower minority committees. Doug was a mentor to many aspiring political operatives and community leaders. His wealth of knowledge was widely recognized and respected among political leaders across Florida.

He made several TV appearances, including the Daily Buzz and Central Florida news affiliates for FOX (WOFL) and ABC (WFTV), as well as being quoted in journals and newspapers, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *National Underwriter* and *Chicago Tribune*, among others.

Doug Head passed away on the evening of November 13, 2021, in Orlando and is survived by his sisters, Meredy Jenkins and Barbara Cornelius, and his brother-in-law, Dennis Jenkins. His decades of commitment to the Central Florida community and the Democratic Party left a lasting foundation for others to build upon. His wisdom and guidance will be missed by many.

LAND CONVEYANCE FROM BEALE AIR FORCE BASE TO THREE RIVERS LEVEE IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce legislation that would convey a small land parcel at Beale Air Force Base (AFB) in northern California to the Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority for the Congressionally authorized Yuba Goldfields Levee Improvement Project. I thank my colleague Congressman DOUG LAMALFA (R-CA01), the bill's original cosponsor, who represents the neighboring Congressional district.

The Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority is responsible for providing 200-year flood protection for southern Yuba County in California, protecting homes, businesses, and military infrastructure at Beale AFB. As a senior member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, I secured authorization for the Yuba Goldfields Levee Improvement Project in the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-270). The Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority is the non-federal sponsor for this project, which will provide 200-year level of flood protection to the community surrounding Beale AFB.

Specifically, this project extends the Yuba River South Levee and crosses Beale AFB outside the fence line. Upon completing survey work for the proposed levee improvement project, the Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority discovered that the U.S. Air Force owned a small parcel of approximately 0.3 acres outside the fence line and separated from the rest of Beale AFB by Smartville Road. In September 2020, I helped to secure a 25-year easement from the Air Force on be-

half of the Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority needed to construct, operate, and maintain the levee.

However, this legislation would convey ownership of the 0.3-acre parcel from the Air Force to the Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority, so that the non-federal sponsor can continue to ensure area flood control in perpetuity. This public interest land conveyance will ensure that the area, including Beale AFB, is better protected from future flooding.

As chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, I plan to legislate this land conveyance necessary for the long-term maintenance of the Yuba Goldfields Levee Improvement Project in the FY2023 National Defense Authorization Act, if necessary. This is but one example of how Congress can make our military installations more resilient to flooding and other extreme weather exacerbated by climate change by improving coordination between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' civil works projects and the service branches.

REMEMBERING DONALD EUGENE JORDAN

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Donald Jordan, who passed away on November 28th after a courageous and lengthy battle with cancer.

Mr. Jordan is a lifelong Michigander born in Flint, Michigan, on April 15, 1943. In 1961, he graduated from Plymouth High School but stayed connected to his school and classmates through his leadership as a member of the Class Reunion Committee. In college, he was an active member of the Fraternity Phi Delta Tau and graduated from the University of Michigan in 1975 with a Degree in Mechanical Engineering. Mr. Jordan worked at Ford Motor Company for over 30 years, during which time he earned his Professional Engineering Certification. He is survived by his wife Alice Jordan, his sons James and David, and his grandchildren Maxwell, Isabella, and Josue.

Mr. Jordan loved spending time with his family. They traveled on many vacations, including camping trips up North, Cooperstown, Myrtle Beach, Toronto, and Key West, but his favorite was the annual trip to Cancun. As a husband, he was deeply devoted to Alice, and they cared for each other through the course of their 49 years of marriage. As a father and grandfather, he was dependable and comforting, very involved in his children and grandchildren's activities, and always in the stands cheering them on.

In his free time, Mr. Jordan was a band member at his church and a proud member of the Plymouth Community Band. He played several instruments, including the euphonium, and taught accordion lessons. Furthermore, he volunteered at the Ascension Hospital for many years, where he valued the opportunity to care for others.

Mr. Jordan lived his life devoted to his family, helping others, and caring for the community around him. His example of love for his family and his community will forever be a reminder to his children, his grandchildren, and

all who knew him. Mr. Jordan will always be remembered for his love of family, spirit, and commitment to his community—all of which he passed down to his children and grandchildren.

**RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
JAMES HOOLEY, HEAD OF POLITICAL
SECTION AT THE BRITISH
EMBASSY**

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the invaluable service of James Hooley, who has served as the head of the political section at the British Embassy in Washington D.C. for the past five years. Throughout his tenure, James has personified the Special Relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom with his tireless work, diligent commitment, and affable personality.

As one of our key liaisons with the United Kingdom, James has facilitated bipartisan engagement with Congressional members and all levels of the British Government, from Prime Ministers to Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament, and members of the Royal Family. Through two Presidential Administrations and two Prime Ministers, James has led the British Embassy's political operations, ensuring we in the United States remain well connected with our allies across the Atlantic. James has been steadfast in ensuring the highest diplomatic channels between our two countries remain open and well-used for the range of issues covered by the U.S.-U.K. relationship.

James will be transitioning back to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office in London where I have no doubt he will achieve the same success. The Special Relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom remains special thanks to the work of diplomats like James Hooley. We in Congress will miss his work at the Embassy and wish him nothing but the best for his future endeavors.

**REMEMBERING THE SECOND VICTIM
OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
IN ERIE COUNTY, WALTER
MONAHAN, A DECORATED VETERAN,
FAMILY MAN, AND A
FRIEND TO ALL**

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the remarkable life of Walter Monahan, an exceptional man who was taken far too soon due to COVID-19. Walter was a decorated Vietnam military veteran, an active community leader and volunteer, and a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. Unfortunately, on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, Walter became the second resident in Erie County to pass due to COVID-19. His wife, Valerie Monahan, and

his family, wishes for the public to remember Walter for the extraordinary person he was, not just as a statistic in a public health emergency. Walter's unfortunate passing allows us to honor his legacy and the incredible work he did while reminding us all that we must continue to actively take a stand against COVID-19.

Walter's lifelong commitment to serving his country is beyond commendable. He was a Petty Officer second class in the United States Navy. Walter's military career began when he served two tours on a destroyer during the Vietnam War. From there, the Navy truly became a part of Walter's blood. When his tours ended, Walter was transferred to the Pentagon to work for the Chief of Naval Operations. Walter also was a dedicated and active veteran. He marched with the Rochester Vietnam Veterans Chapter 20 marching unit and served on the board of directors.

I had the honor of meeting Walter myself and presenting him with a Vietnam Lapel Pin in thanks for his remarkable service. Walter's immense dedication, sacrifice, and service does not go unrecognized. He exemplified what it means to truly be a patriot, dedicating himself to our American values and serving his country proudly.

It was while he worked at the Pentagon that Walter met the love of his life, Valerie. The two soon got married and returned to Rochester, where Walter had grown up. Together, Walter and Valerie raised two lovely children, their daughter, Kelly and their son, Michael. After moving to Buffalo in 2007, Walter worked as a facilities director for People Inc's Senior Centers. He is remembered by his co-workers for his exceptional customer service, incredible family-oriented mindset, and his immense compassion. They reflect on Walter as being "the kind of employee everyone would want on their team—skilled, caring, friendly, funny and enjoyable to know."

A pinnacle of his community, Walter additionally dedicated his time to being an active member of numerous organizations. He served as a Eucharistic minister at St. Joseph University Parish, a docent at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park, a Meals-on-Wheels volunteer, and a school bus driver. Walter, a true family man at heart, also became a fixture at just about every event involving his grandchildren during his retirement. Walter nobly dedicated his life to service in all manners. He went above and beyond in working to make a better community for all, a true testament to his dedication to service.

COVID-19 wrongfully claimed the remarkable life of Walter, taking his life all too soon. After noticing Walter was not getting enough oxygen, his wife of 50 years, Valerie, called 911 and Walter was admitted to Kenmore Mercy Hospital. Walter's family believed he would recover quickly, thinking he simply had pneumonia or bronchitis. Unfortunately, Valerie was never able to see her beloved husband conscious again. Hours after he arrived at the hospital, Walter was attached to a ventilator and put under a medically induced coma. The family was allowed just moments at his bedside before Walter's passing. Despite the persistence and dedication of the doctors, there was nothing more that could be done for Walter. Walter passed on March 25, 2020 at the age of 74 due to COVID-19, being the second Erie County resident to lose their life to the deadly disease.

After Walter's tragic passing, Valerie dedicated herself to mobilizing people in the community to take a stand against COVID-19. Valerie's early and persistent calls for mask usage along with her active pursuit in spreading the truth about the virus was vital in keeping our community safe during such challenging times. The people are forever in debt to Valerie for her work in taking preventive measures against COVID-19 and advocating for others to do the same.

Today, I wish to echo Valerie's calls for action and encourage the American people to get the COVID-19 vaccine. We now have the means to protect ourselves and our loved ones from this horrible disease. Getting the COVID-19 vaccine is the best way we can prevent another loss such as Walter. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Walter and the extraordinary life of service he led and in choosing to actively stand against COVID-19 by getting vaccinated. Walter was an incredible man who dedicated his life to serving his country and community nobly. His life was cut all too short due to this horrible and deadly virus. By getting the COVID-19 vaccination, each person is actively taking a step to ensure we do not lose any more American citizens to this illness. May we honor Walter's legacy and remarkable life by ensuring his death is not in vain; we must continue to protect our communities and country in the same fashion Walter did during his lifetime.

**HONORING NIKOLA "NICK"
VOYVODICH**

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Nikola "Nick" Voyvodich in celebration of his longstanding career in law enforcement.

Born in Oakland, California, at Oaknoll Naval Hospital, Nikola "Nick" Voyvodich was no stranger to the definition of bravery, as his father was wounded in action as a United States Marine. After receiving an associate of the arts degree from Ohlone College, on August 25, 1994, Mr. Voyvodich joined the Newark Police Department as a reserve officer, jump starting his career in law enforcement. A few years later, on March 2, 1994, Mr. Voyvodich became a full-time police officer with the Martinez Police Department.

His illustrious career included a strong dedication to training others in the law enforcement field and in defensive tactics, and so much more. He served as a member of the bicycle patrol team, detective, corporal, and a special agent in Central County Narcotic Enforcement Team (CNET), which is a team that specializes in narcotics. He was often accompanied by his beloved late K9 partner, Brit.

Mr. Voyvodich received two awards while serving as the President of the Police Officers Association, further highlighting his dedication to his community. He received a Chiefs Commendation in 2012 and a Life Saving Award in 2016. Specializing in narcotics, he worked tirelessly to maintain the safety of Martinez.

Mr. Voyvodich and his wife Melissa Voyvodich have six beautiful children: Austin, Elizabeth, Kaitlin, Christopher, Thomas, and

Dakota. Christopher and Thomas are currently serving in the United States Marine Corps. Mr. Voyvodich's family describes him as a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. His tireless dedication has resonated with his family, his co-workers, and his community.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Mr. Voyvodich has dedicated his life for the betterment and safety of the Martinez community through his service. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO GLEN AND KERRY FLETCHER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Glen and Kerry Fletcher, who are jointly being honored as the 2021 Citizen of the Year by the Corona Chamber of Commerce. Glen and Kerry have been true leaders in my hometown of Corona for more than three decades, and residents throughout our community deeply appreciate their many contributions.

Glen and Kerry first met in high school where Kerry was a song leader and Glen was president of the Future Farmers of America. After a few dates, Kerry was introduced to the family business, Pete's Road Service, which was run by Pete and Clara Fletcher. Soon after, Kerry would join Glen by working at the business and contributing to its success. Eventually they would marry, and after living for stretches in Fullerton and Norco, the Fletcher family moved to Corona in 1986. In addition to expanding Pete's Road Service, the Fletcher family grew with the additions of their children, Amanda, Melissa, and Nathan.

Over the past 30 years, the Fletchers have volunteered their time and resources into the Corona community in many ways. With children active in youth athletics, the Fletchers recognized a need for additional soccer development opportunities in the region. In 1992, they founded the Corona United Soccer Club, and Glen served as its President for 12 years. Not to be outdone, Kerry contributed in a variety of roles over the years, including as a coach, Board Treasurer, and Registrar. In 2005, Glen joined the Corona Rotary where he chaired the club's Lobsterfest fundraiser in 2011 and served as President in the 2011/2012 year. Glen and Kerry have also been members of the Navy League and a number of other local clubs and organizations benefiting our city.

Today, Glen and Kerry enjoy another treasured role—being grandparents. With their incredible record of service, the Fletchers are incredibly deserving of the Citizen of the Year award from the Corona Chamber of Commerce. I would like to thank Glen and Kerry for their dedication to our community and wish them the very best in the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT TITLE EQUALITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Government Title Equality Act. This bill would amend the D.C. Home Rule Act to redesignate the Mayor of the District of Columbia as the Governor, the D.C. Council as the Legislative Assembly, the D.C. Councilmembers as Representatives and the Chair of the Council as the Speaker. The new titles are the ones used in the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth constitution, which the District adopted in 2016 in anticipation of passage of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act, which would make D.C. the 51st state.

I introduce this bill to highlight to the American people and Members of Congress that there would be a seamless transition to D.C. statehood because D.C. already operates as the functional equivalent of a state, providing state-, county- and city-level services, despite being denied voting representation in Congress and full local self-government.

This bill would not change any D.C. legal authorities.

This is an important step to provide greater equality for the District, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

REMEMBERING WILLIAM J. WOOD

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, my wife Roxanne, the Wilson family, and I would like to express our condolences to the family of William J. Wood. He, his late wife, Nancy, and his daughter, Lou, have been greatly appreciated civic and business leaders of the Midlands of South Carolina. With Eastman Chemicals, Midlands Technical College, and Nephron Pharmaceuticals, the Kennedy Family has provided innumerable people with meaningful jobs. I am grateful to include in the RECORD his obituary in fond remembrance.

WILLIAM J. WOOD

(June 23, 1937–January 16, 2022)

OBITUARY OF WILLIAM J. WOOD

William Jerry Wood, of Lexington, passed away on Sunday, January 16, 2022 at his home.

The son of the late Oscar Benjamin and Faye Hooper Wood, Mr. Wood was born in Commerce, GA, started his career at Eastman Chemical Company in Kingsport, TN, and made Lexington his home for more than a half century. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather.

As a young man, Mr. Wood's family moved around Appalachia. During this period, Mr. Wood's father was following his calling to serve Baptist congregations around the region, as a minister. His father also owned a dry cleaning business, in which the entire family pitched in. At the age of 18, Mr. Wood started his career at Eastman in Kingsport, TN, where the family had settled.

Mr. Wood devoted more than four decades in leadership and management to Eastman Chemical Company. With the exception of his family, Mr. Wood did not take more pride in anything than his work. He left an indelible mark on the company and its employees, many of whom continue to pass down the lessons they learned working with Mr. Wood. He taught a Machine, Tool, Technology class to local technical college students for more than 15 years.

The Midlands Technical College Life Skills Center is named in honor of Mr. Wood. Since opening in 2014, the center has helped Midlands Tech students prepare for life after school by honing essential skills needed to start a career.

The father of Lou Wood Kennedy, Mr. Wood embraced life in the Midlands of South Carolina when he relocated his family here, in 1965, as he continued to grow in management at Eastman. Mr. Wood was active in community endeavors, such as service organizations like the Lions Club, hobby-focused clubs, such as the Antique Car Club of America South Carolina Chapter, and in the Baptist church. His daughter, beaming with pride, called Mr. Wood the greatest man she has ever known, and he loved watching the role she plays in making her own mark today on the community he chose as their family home.

Mr. Wood met his wife, Nancy Thomas Wood, as a teenager. They dated as students at East Tennessee State University. His father married the couple. Mr. and Mrs. Wood celebrated 61 years of marriage last year.

Surviving Mr. Wood are his daughter, Lou Wood Kennedy of Lexington (Bill); granddaughter, Xanna Bailey of Lexington (Travis) and great-grandson, Lincoln Bailey. Mr. Wood is also survived by Paul Wood (Mildred), Sarah Benson, Daniel Wood (Cara), Rebecca (Chuck) and countless nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. The family wants to say a special thank you to Amya Bryant for the love and care she provided over the last five months.

HONORING MONTFORD POINT MARINE ROSCOE BROWN FOR HIS COURAGE, TRAILBLAZING DETERMINATION, AND SELFLESS SERVICE TO OUR GREAT NATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Roscoe Brown, a member of the Montford Point Marines, an elite team of men who bravely signed up to fight abroad for our nation's freedom even while they were being denied equal rights here at home. We will never forget his courage, trailblazing determination, and selfless service.

In 2011 I co-sponsored H.R. 2477, a bill to grant the Congressional Gold Medal to the Montford Point Marines. The legislation was approved by Congress and signed by President Obama. In November of 2012 a ceremony was held to present many of the Marines with their medals, however Mr. Brown was unable to attend. In April of 2013 my office secured the medal and at Mr. Brown's request, I presented the honor in a special ceremony at Bethesda World Harvest International Church in Buffalo, where Brown served as a Deacon.

During the struggle of World War II, America called Mr. Brown and the Montford Point Marines to duty, and they answered with selfless service in defense of our freedoms. The 1941 Fair Employment Act prohibited racial discrimination by federal agencies; finally giving African-Americans the right to enlist in the Marine Corps. However, like the rest of America at the time, military training facilities were segregated. Camp Montford Point in Jacksonville, North Carolina served as the training site for African-American men eager to serve in the Marines. Over a 7 year period beginning in 1942, approximately 20,000 African Americans were trained at the Camp, many serving during World War II. In 1949 Montford Point Camp was deactivated and all recruits were trained side-by-side.

The Public Affairs office of the United States Marine Corps added, "The sacrifice of these men paved the way for other minorities and all women to be integrated into the Marine Corps. By their sacrifice, MPM's engineered social and cultural change in the Marine Corps that created a lasting impact and has contributed to the success of the Marine Corps today."

Born in 1927 in Texas, Roscoe Brown came to Buffalo in 1944 and resided in Williamsville, New York. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in July of 1945, was squad leader in boot camp and served as a personnel clerk in the United States Marine Corps before being honorably discharged on August 30, 1946.

After his military service, Mr. Brown briefly worked for the United States Postal Service in Chicago before returning Western New York to work at the Bethlehem Steel plant, where

he was employed for 33 years and rose to the rank of foreman. After retirement from the plant, Mr. Brown opened a Laundromat at 2116 Fillmore Avenue in Buffalo. He operated the small business, named "Thrif-T-Wash," from 1983 to 2005.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest civilian award given by Congress. It is awarded to those who have performed an achievement that has impacted American history and culture. Others receiving the medal include, but are not limited to: George Washington in 1776, Rosa Parks in 1999, Pope John Paul II in 2000, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King in 2004, the Tuskegee Airmen in 2006 and the Victims of 9/11 in 2011. Mr. Brown will always be remembered as a hero alongside others who have received this high honor.